

From: Nguyen, Sen. Joe <Joe.Nguyen@leg.wa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 8:18 AM
Subject: Request for Public Comments in the Package of Proposals

External Email

Dear Chair Klein and Members of the Washington State Building Code Council:

As the ex officio Senator from the Democratic Caucus for the State Building Code Council, I wanted to share my feedback in advance of the meeting today. I have been following the updates to the Washington State Commercial Energy Code with interest and will try to attend some of the upcoming meeting, but have some preexisting conflicts that will prevent my full attendance. In case I am not able to speak to this matter at the appropriate time, I wanted to share a few comments in writing.

The legislature has asked that new buildings to be 70% more efficient by 2031 than they were in 2006—and has left the implementation of that goal to the State Building Code Council. The legislature has also set economy-wide greenhouse gas emission limits that are in line with climate science. We need to be actively doing all we can to reduce climate pollution, and our policies and rules should have this climate lens when we are evaluating them.

I understand that the Washington State Commercial Energy Code has been going through an update process and there are proposals that would put the state on a path for meeting our energy reduction mandate for our large, new buildings. At the September 30th meeting, the SBCC will decide what exactly to put out for public comment. **I urge the SBCC to put out the full package of proposals for a robust and deliberative public comment period.**

As a member of the Senate Energy, Environment, & Technology Committee, I understand the challenges we face in reducing emissions economy-wide; strong energy codes are one of the most effective and cost-effective ways of doing so. I look forward to an open and accessible public process that will provide informed public comment and help ensure our energy code remains strong and on a path for helping the state meet our statutory greenhouse gas emission limits.

[@krista.braaksma@des.wa.gov](mailto:krista.braaksma@des.wa.gov), Would you be able to share with the rest of the committee if that's appropriate?



Thank you,
Sen. Nguyen

Joe Nguyen
State Senator
34th LD



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